



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH**

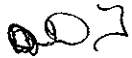
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Janie Miller
Secretary

May 2, 2011

TO: All VFC Providers Except Hospitals

FROM: Alicia Tindall, RN, BS 
Program Manager, Kentucky Immunization Program

RE: Updated Immunization Entry Requirements

There are new immunization requirements for children entering child day care centers, certified family child care homes, preschool programs, public and private preschool programs and public and private elementary and secondary schools in Kentucky. These changes became law in February 2011. A summary of the new requirements can be found in the attached document. The complete revised regulation can be found online at <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/kar/902/002/060.htm>.

The effective date for these regulatory changes is July 1, 2011. This means that for the 2011-2012 school year children entering child day care, preschool, Head Start, kindergarten and sixth grade will need to be in compliance with the new requirements if the immunization certificate is presented on or after July 1, 2011.

The immunization certificates have been updated to reflect these new requirements and are available online at: <http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/Coordinated+School+Health/Health+Services/School+Health+Forms.htm>. One copy of each certificate is also included as enclosures with this memo for your convenience.

If you have questions, please contact a nurse in the Kentucky Immunization Program at (502) 564-4478. You may contact:

- Melissa Eastman, RN extension 3334 or e-mail at Melissa.Eastman@ky.gov;
- Nancy Hamilton, RN, CLC at extension 3516 or by e-mail at Nancy.Hamilton@ky.gov;
- Leslee Minch, RN at extension 3513 or by e-mail at Leslee.Minch@ky.gov;
- Julie Miracle, RN, BSN, CPAN at extension 4038 or by e-mail at Julie.Miracle@ky.gov; or
- Alicia Tindall, RN, BS at extension 3585 or by e-mail at Alicia.Tindall@ky.gov.

Changes in Immunization Requirements in the New Regulation

- *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) vaccine
 - Children at least 5 and less than 7 months of age are now required to have two doses of Hib vaccine instead of three. Some brands of Hib vaccine or combination Hib-containing vaccines permit doses at 2 month and 4 months but do not require a dose at 6 months as described in the 2011 ACIP recommended schedule. This amendment gives providers more flexibility in choosing Hib-containing vaccine brands for their practices.
- Hepatitis B vaccine
 - The third dose is now required for children at least 19 and less than 48 months of age. This amendment allows providers the flexibility to administer the third dose of hepatitis B vaccine as late as 18 months of age while maintaining compliance with requirements for child day care entry. This is in compliance with 2011 ACIP recommendations for hepatitis B vaccine administration.
- Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine
 - Age appropriate vaccination with a second dose of MMR vaccine is now required.
- Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)
 - One dose of meningococcal vaccine for sixth grade entry, 11 or 12 years or older is required.
 - While not a requirement of the regulation, adolescents aged 13 years and older and adolescents entering grades 7 through 12 who have not received a dose of meningococcal vaccine, should be administered a single dose of meningococcal vaccine.
 - The use of meningococcal conjugate vaccine is preferred, but meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (MPSV) may be used if the conjugate vaccine is unavailable.
- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV)
 - Age appropriate immunization with PCV will be required for children up to five years of age. Children aged five years or older will not be required to receive PCV as it is not licensed for healthy children in that age range.
- Polio (IPV) vaccine
 - The final dose of IPV vaccine should be administered at age four years or older regardless of the number of previous doses and the minimum interval between this final dose and the previous dose should be at least six months.
- Tetanus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine
 - One dose of Tdap regardless of interval since last dose of tetanus-containing vaccine is required for students at sixth grade entry, 11 or 12 years or older, with option for Td for individuals who cannot receive pertussis containing vaccines.
 - While not a requirement of the regulation, adolescents aged 13 years and older and adolescents entering grades 7 through 12 who have not received a dose of Tdap vaccine, should be administered a single dose of Tdap vaccine.
- Varicella vaccine
 - A second dose of varicella vaccine will be required for kindergarten and sixth grade entry.